GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:518
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2016
Telecom and Internet in Lakshadweep
Mohammed Shri Faizal P.P.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to improve Telecommunications and Broadband Internet facilities in Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken and the result achieved as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c)

(i) The Department proposes to enhance the existing satellite bandwidth capacity linking mainland and Lakshadweep islands from 102 Mbps to 318 Mbps, which will require capital investment of Rs. 46.53 Crore. The work has been awarded to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). The project is likely to be completed by December 2016.

(ii) Work of setting up 10 mobile towers in Lakshadweep Islands has also been given to BSNL. BSNL has prepared the Detailed Project Report (DPR) and cost estimates.

(iii) As a long term measure to improve connectivity in Lakshadweep islands, the Department is studying the feasibility of laying submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) between Kochi and Lakshadweep islands. Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) has been entrusted to carry out the study.